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United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire

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MEDIA RELEASE
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CONCORD MAN CONVICTED OF WAL-MART ROBBERY, ACQUITED OF DUNKIN DONUTS ROBBERY

Contact:

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Concord, New Hampshire Police Chief Jerome Madden report that John Brennick, age 41, of Concord, New Hampshire, was convicted, after a one-week jury trial, of interfering with commerce through the commission of an armed robbery at Wal-Mart, 344 Loudon Road, Concord, New Hampshire on December 29, 2002. Brennick was acquited of a separate armed robbery charge in connection with the December 22, 2002 robbery of a Concord Dunkin' Donuts.

During the course of the trial, the United States established that defendant John Brennick entered the Concord Wal-Mart at approximately 1:30 a.m. on December 29, 2002. Shortly after his entrance, a number of store employees noticed him because he had three distinct scratch marks on the right side of his face. While in Wal-Mart, Brennick approached a cashier and purchased a pack of gum. When the cashier opened the register in order to conduct the transaction, Brennick threw the cashier from the register and took \$522.00 in cash from the open drawer and fled the area. During the incident, Brennick held a knife to the cashier. A search of the trash container outside the exit door by members of the Concord Police Department revealed the presence of the knife utilized by Brennick during the robbery. The New Hampshire State Police Forensic Laboratory conducted an examination of the knife and determined that Brennick's left thumb print was located on the tip of the knife. At trial, five Wal-Mart employees testified. Three of the employees identified Brennick as the individual who committed the armed robbery.

As a result of the conviction, defendant Brennick faces a twenty year term of imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000. The case was investigated by the Concord, New Hampshire Police Department. United States Attorney Colantuono commended the bravery of the Wal-Mart employees and stated that the conviction "represents another victory for the citizens of the State of New Hampshire who, working together with law enforcement, removed a violent individual from the streets."

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Terry Ollila.